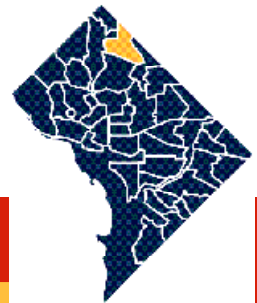


city living, **dc** style!



Neighborhood Cluster

17



Brightwood
Manor Park
Takoma

Neighborhood Cluster **17**

Brightwood Manor Park Takoma



Physical Characteristics and Assets

Cluster 17 neighborhoods are defined by a range of housing choices, including single family detached houses, semidetached houses, row houses, and apartment buildings. Georgia, New Hampshire, and Kansas Avenues are major thoroughfares. Those corridors also serve as commercial districts. The southern boundary, Missouri Avenue and Military Road is the major east-west thoroughfare throughout Ward 4.

The neighborhoods of Cluster 17 are also rich in history and culture. The Brightwood area was established in the 1730s as Crystal Spring Farm. In the 1820s, the development of Vinegar Hill began, and it continued to develop into the 20th century, later known as Brightwood. Throughout this time the Brightwood Turnpike (now Georgia Avenue) was completed, the Battle of Fort Stevens took place, Nativity Church was built, Emory United Methodist Church was organized and the Military Road School was constructed. Takoma—founded in 1883 as an inter-jurisdictional commuter suburb and resort community centered on the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad station—is one of the oldest neighborhoods in the Ward. It is the Ward's only neighborhood that has an historic district.

Some highlights of Cluster 17's assets and features include the following:

- Neighborhoods offer sound housing stock and a good real estate market.

- Immediate access to Rock Creek Park provides a massive buffer of green space and opportunities for both passive and active recreation.
- The western portion of the Cluster borders Walter Reed Army Medical Center, the Army's largest healthcare delivery system. The medical center provides comprehensive medical care to military families throughout the region and around the world. The Museum of Health and Medicine (which is an element of the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology), Army Physical Disability Agency and several smaller units are located on the campus.
- The Gateway Georgia Avenue area is currently experiencing new investment and physical transformation, and it offers significant revitalization and economic development opportunities.
- Downtown Silver Spring and other parts of Montgomery County and the region are within close proximity.
- The Cluster includes the Takoma Park Historic District.
- The Takoma Together Community Day and Yard Sale occurs annually.
- The Cluster has historic and cultural attractions, including Fort Stevens, National Battleground Cemetery, Nativity Church, Emory Methodist Church, Military Road School and the Takoma Theatre.
- Georgia Avenue Day, a celebration of history, community and commerce, is held every year.



- Georgia Avenue is the site of the annual Washington Caribbean Carnival Parade. The Caribbean Carnival, one of the largest cultural festivals in the Washington metropolitan area, is a feast of culture with Caribbean music, dance, arts and crafts, fashion and food.

Recent Neighborhood Activity

- New streetscape improvements along Georgia Avenue from Fern to Eastern Avenue.
- The Silk Road Boutique, Gift Shop, and Café opened and is located at 6224 3rd Street NW.
- The El Tamarindo restaurant expanded. It is located at 7331 Georgia Avenue NW.
- The Takoma Central District Plan was completed in January 2002 and adopted by the Council.